

October 28, 2008

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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From:

To:

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Chief Executive Officer

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Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

## STATUS REPORT ON PROPOSED AUTOMATED INTERAGENCY DATA SYSTEM

On May 16, 2006, on motion by Supervisor Burke, your Board instructed the Chief Information Officer (CIO), in conjunction with the Director of Health Services, Director of Children and Family Services, Director of Mental Health, County Counsel and this Office, to report back in 30 days on the feasibility of a cost-effective automated data system and include in the analysis the status of the medical passport. In a related Board action on June 13, 2006, on motion by Supervisor Antonovich, your Board requested the Los Angeles County Education Coordinating Council (ECC) to report back on the development of a public/private partnership to create an electronic based information system for individual education records of youth under the supervision of the Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation.

This represents our fifth status report on the County's efforts to move forward with the development and implementation of a countywide automated health/mental health system for the Medical Hubs, and an education records system for foster care youth to improve information technology and data sharing between County departments.

## BACKGROUND

As indicated in our August 14, 2008 status report to your Board, this Office in conjunction with the CIO, County Counsel, DCFS, Department of Health Services (DHS), Department of Mental Health, and the ECC continue to collaborate as a Work Group in the development of automated systems to enhance the Medical Hubs for children.

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This Work Group accomplished a number of endeavors to develop a project plan for the design of a primary health and mental health system including: 1) the assessment of the type of health/mental health records system needed; 2) the evaluation of a specialized vendor, Saga Technologies (Saga), in developing software, custom applications, and maintenance of the mHUB system as an enterprise solution for health and mental health records; and 3) determination of funding sources.

## STATUS/TIMELINE UPDATE

In order to provide a framework for managing the activities to be carried out for the mHUB project, the Work Group developed an action plan to monitor the project timeline. An overview of completed objectives and impending tasks from that timeline are reported as follows:

- The mHUB Project Manager was identified as the designated lead, on September 12, 2008, to conduct negotiations with Saga. An existing DHS Information Technology staff person will perform project management duties on a temporary basis until the position can be filled permanently by February 2009.
- Notified your Board on September 11, 2008, of DHS' intent to enter into sole source negotiations with Saga for procurement, development, and support of the mHUB software application system for use in DHS' Medical Hub Clinics.
- Prepared an outline of the Statement of Work to be used as the foundation for discussions on an agreement with Saga. Additionally, conducted initial meeting with Saga representatives on October 6, 2008, to update them on the project status and timeline.
- Briefed the Hub Clinic Medical Directors, Program Administrators and other stakeholders on October 8, 2008, on the project status and timeline, a workgroup, comprised of Medical Hub staff, was identified and will meet weekly to review workflow processes and end-user system requirements.
- Contract negotiations with Saga are expected to begin November 26, 2008 and conclude by December 19, 2008.

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- Finalizing the system requirements is underway and a request for your Board to approve a contract agreement is on target for January 2009.
- The ECC initiated a plan to design the supplemental education records system and they are working with Saga to create a pilot educational database at two DCFS offices. These pilot systems will receive educational information from the main school district serving each office. The Work Group will be evaluating the pilot to determine if the educational information can be linked to the mHUB system.

The next status update to your Board will be provided in January 2009 and will include the request for approval of the contract agreement. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Dara Lark at (213) 974-2396, or at dlark@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF: SRH:SAS MLM:DL:yb

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
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Education Coordinating Council

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